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66th YEAR

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WEATHER  
PAGE 10 —FAIR

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## FAVORS REMOVAL OF HOME FOR GIRLS

Governor, in Special Message,  
Urges Consolidation of State  
Enterprises.

## SUGGESTS EPILEPTIC FARM

Institution in Chesterfield Is Ask-  
ing \$81,000 for Maintenance  
and Buildings.

Taking the position that the condition of the State treasury at this time absolutely prohibits the maintenance of the school as a separate institution and that justice to the citizens of the surrounding country demands the removal, Governor Stuart, in a communication to the General Assembly yesterday recommended the consolidation of the Virginia Home and Industrial School for Girls, in Chesterfield County, with the Madison State Epileptic Colony, at Madison Heights, in Amherst County.

Somewhat in the nature of a dissenting opinion, the Governor's report is understood to voice the attitude of a minority of the board of directors, consisting of seven members, appointed by himself and confirmed by the Senate under the provisions of an act of the General Assembly at its last regular session. Four members of the board, including Robert Lecky, Jr., Rev. J. J. Scherer, Burnett Lewis, Miss Reller and Mrs. Samuel D. Waddell, have expressed themselves as unfavorably opposed to co-ordinating or merging the school with kindred State institutions.

## STATE MUST CONSOLIDATE

### ITS VARIOUS ENTERPRISES

"The economic administration of the State's revenues," the Governor says, "particularly important at this time, absolutely requires expenditures necessary for the improvements and maintenance of all the separate institutions having for their purpose the custody, care or reformation of the various classes of persons who, while not strictly in the penal class, should be separated from society, and demands certain consolidation, merging of certain of these institutions."

"The expenses incident to the creation and continuing improvement of separate growing plants, separate overhead charges, separate physicians and mental experts, numerous assistants and attendants, separate water, heating and lighting systems, railroad fares for persons committed to the institution, but upon examination found proper to be placed in another, and should be eliminated by such merging, and still further reduction of per capita expenses can be obtained through purchasing in large quantities and requiring the inmates, as far as possible, to produce articles to meet their actual necessities."

## SEES GREAT ADVANTAGES

### IN PROPOSED CONSOLIDATION

"The advantages of such consolidation to the inmates themselves will be great. Owing to the heavy burden, the State can afford at these separate locations to spend but small sums in buildings and equipment whereby the proper segregation of the various classes of inmates and their necessary vocational and educational training can be obtained, and each inmate's individuality is being improved for re-education, and the revenues of the State do not warrant."

"Upon consolidation of the institutions the inmates can be more accurately classified and properly segregated, and proper buildings and equipment for vocational and educational training supplied, not only for present needs, but also for anticipated growth at a minimum aggregate cost which the revenues justify."

Justice to the citizens of the surrounding country, whose social and material life is visibly affected by the removal of the school in their midst, requires, the Governor thinks, its removal to some other locality. Already, he says, it has exerted a baneful influence upon property values in the territory adjacent to Bon Air, home-seekers preferring not to settle near the school, and its removal would be a consideration of equity to the County of Chesterfield, which has recently lost a large portion of its taxable values through the annexation of its most populous territory. The same considerations might be raised to its location as a separate institution in another community.

## MEMBERS OF BOARD

### ARE OPPOSED TO CHANGE

Rev. J. J. Scherer, Jr., a member of the board of directors, expressed unalterable opposition, when asked for his views last night, to co-ordinating the school with the State Epileptic Colony at Madison Heights. The problems of the institutions, he said, are entirely different, and a merger would tend to the detriment of the work undertaken by both institutions.

"The Virginia Home and Industrial School for Girls," he said, "would lose its identity if merged with another State institution of like character. We have instituted in this State at Bon Air a certain pride in their school, very much the same spirit that obtains among the students in other schools, and to place them under the same management with persons confined in the Madison Heights institution would be to destroy that spirit that we have worked so hard to create and which is so essential to the success of the school. To do its work properly it is absolutely necessary that it be a separate and distinct institution."

## ASK \$81,000 FROM

### STATE THIS YEAR

"If the girls are sent to the property occupied by the State Epileptic Colony, it would be necessary to have some sort of guard system to enforce seg-

(Continued on Tenth Page.)

C. & O. TO NORFOLK.

Passengers on C. & O. fast trains to Norfolk can view captured steamer Appam anchored Newport News.

## Irish Still Hope for Independence

Convention Called to Prepare Legitimate Claims to Separation  
from England After War.

NEW YORK, February 8.—A call for a national convention of "men and women of the Irish race in America," to make "known to the world that Ireland has not been, and cannot be, absorbed into England," was issued here to-day over the signatures of over 5,000 men of Irish lineage of prominence in different parts of the country. The convention is to be held in this city on March 4 and 5.

Among the signers are Victor Herbert, president of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick; Joseph McLaughlin, national president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians; T. S. St. John Gaffney, former United States consul at Munich, and Rev. John Cavanaugh, president of Notre Dame University.

The announcement declares that Ireland looks forward with hope and confidence to the "complete breakdown of British misrule as the certain outcome of the present war."

"England, with her allies," it declares, "in spite of her boasted supremacy in numbers, wealth and in territory, has been defeated in every contest where skill and courage and strength have been the weapons, and has kept her cause afloat with the neutral world only because of the censorship and cable control through which her weapons of calumny and falsehood have been wielded with the dexterity and success which experience and inherited tendency have given to her."

Among the subjects announced for discussion is "how best to act so that at the congress of the nations at the end of the war the legitimate claims of Ireland to separation from England may receive the fullest measure of consideration and that, after age-long sufferings, she may again take her place among the nations of the world."

## DETERMINED FIGHT BEGINS

### Republican Senators, Aided by Clarke, Democrat, Oppose Ratification of Nicaragua Treaty.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—Republican Senators, aided by Senator Clarke, Democrat, of Arkansas, began a determined fight in an executive session of the Senate late to-day against ratification of the pending treaty with Nicaragua. For three hours Senators Borah, Smith, of Michigan, and Clarke argued against the measure and urged passage of a motion by Senator Borah that discussion of the treaty, and also the proposed Colombian treaty, which is to follow, be held in open session. No vote was reached on the motion, but the Senate agreed to resume the debate at 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon. The treaty proposes payment of \$21,000,000 to Nicaragua for a canal route option and naval bases in Fonseca Bay.

Mr. Clarke was rebuking the bill the Salvadoran government sent a dispatch to its minister here, instructing him to lodge a further protest with the State Department against ratification of the convention on the ground that it would violate the neutrality of Honduras. Minister Salazar said to-night he would place the protest before the State Department to-morrow. The first protest against Salvador against the treaty was made in 1913. Honduras also has protested.

## SANCTUARY FOR APPAM

### Germany Claims Prize Ship May Remain in American Waters Indefinitely.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—Germany contends that the British liner Appam, brought to Hampton Roads by a German prize crew, is entitled, under the terms of the Prussian-American treaty, to remain in American waters indefinitely, and in support of her position, Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, to-day presented to Secretary Lansing a formal communication on behalf of the Berlin Foreign Office.

The United States practically has decided that the treaty guarantees the ship to the Germans as a prize, as she is entitled to return to her British owners, but it has not decided how long she will be permitted to remain in American waters.

To accept the German contention would mean that the Appam would be permitted to remain until the end of the war. Until then her departure would mean capture by the allied warships outside of Virginia waters. There was no indication to-day of how soon a decision might be announced.

## EIGHTY ZEPPELINS IN USE

### Newest Model, L-75, Is Longer Than Previous Types, and Is Fishlike in Shape.

BERNE, SWITZERLAND, February 8 (via Paris).—Eighty Zeppelins are now in the German service, it appears from information developed at Friedrichshagen, where the Zeppelin works are located. One of the latest type that is being built is the L-75, which is longer than the L-70, which is taken here to mean that it is the ninety-fifth in the series, dating from the beginning of the war, fifteen having been lost, it is said.

The newest model seems considerably longer than previous types. It is of fishlike shape and gray tinted by the means of aluminum powder, it is alleged. The gondolas are of plated steel. Each has six machine guns in its quick-firing battery and apparatus for throwing bombs and air torpedoes. It is reported that a new air torpedo more powerful than any previously used is about to be given a trial.

## Cargo of Cotton on Fire.

LONDON, February 8.—With her cargo of cotton on fire, the Swedish steamship Texas is making for the port of Kirkwall, Scotland. The vessel left New Orleans, January 22, and Newport News, January 27, bound for Georgetown and Kristiania.

## MAYOR CANDIDATES OPEN CAMPAIGN

Ainslie, Hawkins and Lecky  
Speak at Barton Heights  
Schoolhouse.

## AVOID PERSONAL ALLUSIONS

Hawkins Denies Being Candidate  
of Vice-Commission—Lecky  
Reads His Platform.

Except for several veiled allusions by O. A. Hawkins, the opening of the mayoralty and councilmanic campaign before the North Richmond Citizens' Association of the Seventh Precinct of Lee Ward, held last night in the Barton Heights School, was characterized by a fine delivery of feeling among the three candidates for the mayoralty for each other, and though it was Mr. Hawkins's own home precinct, the audience of several hundred applauded each alike.

Mayor Ainslie, in his first appeal for re-election, was calm and dispassionate. He referred often to his desire to serve the people through co-operation with them as individuals and as organizations, and said that if he had made mistakes it was due, not to lack of care and foresight on his part, but because of human failure to be able to judge in the present what would be the result of the best motives and intentions. He stated that he had always sought the best advice within his reach, and that upon that advice and upon his own judgment he had given to the people of Richmond the best service of which he was capable.

## HAWKINS DENIES BEING

### VICE COMMISSION CANDIDATE

In announcing his candidacy, Mr. Hawkins desired to impress on his hearers that he did not enter the race as he has been accused, being the candidate of the Vice Commission, of the Civic Association, of the Y. M. C. A., or of the Anti-Saloon League. He had been sought out, he said, and because of the appeal that had been made to him, he had consented to run.

Robert Lecky, Jr., rested his appeal on the platform which has been published in the papers and upon his service to the city during the fourteen years he has been a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Short addresses were made by E. L. Rodin, John E. Rose, Jr., J. J. Stallings, Dr. W. H. Street and A. L. Vonderhorst, candidates for the City Council.

The meeting was presided over by President W. S. Pettit. A large crowd, the majority of which was said to be voters, was present. While the audience was waiting for the appearance of the candidates it was regaled with selections on a graphophone, the music soothing them into patience for the speeches to follow. A short business session was held, and the candidates were invited to seats on the rostrum. Because of a cold breeze blowing through the windows several of them donned their overcoats, and later, at the suggestion of one of the audience, they took their seats below with their feet and ankles covered by their overcoats. They were introduced in alphabetical order.

## AINSLIE FOR DEVELOPMENT

### OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Mayor Ainslie said that he did not know of, and could not recall, any duty or obligation which his office imposed that had not been performed to the best of his ability, and declared that no obligation that should have rested upon his shoulders had been shifted to those of any other.

"I might," he said, "be charged with the best advice I could obtain. I have always done the best I could. I have always sought the co-operation of the people, my employers, and since I have been Mayor the door of my office has always been open to any who called. I wanted the citizens to understand that they were my employers, I their servant." He referred to a remark made by Bishop O'Connell, who said that in recent years a fine community spirit had developed in Richmond, and this spirit the Mayor wished to see grow.

He closed his remarks by saying that he was elected two years ago, he continued, "with a very particular platform. Every campaign I said that he would do the best he can. I said the same thing then, and I have devoted all I have of intellect, of industry and of integrity to the office. I have been charged with making mistakes. But one has to look to the future, and in the light of present circumstances what he does may seem the proper thing to do, yet later developments may show that he was wrong."

## MAYOR IS GIVEN

### GENEROUS APPLAUSE

"It is the misfortune of human frailty, from which none is secure, from which none is exempt. If another be elected to fill this high office, it might be found afterwards that he, too, made mistakes. Is there any of us who does not? One must act according to his present light, and it must be remembered that the correct thing to do may be the error of to-morrow." The Mayor was gracious in his thanks for the privilege accorded to him, and the audience was generous in its applause.

In his opening, Mr. Hawkins disavowed that he had entered the race with premeditation, and said that he had announced himself upon petition of friends and supporters. Remarking upon the present system of government, he said that he did not believe in the oft-repeated axiom of letting well enough alone, either in morals or in government. There had been, he said, but two changes in the city government in many years—the establishment of the Administrative Board and of the Juvenile Court—which he considered to be steps in the right direction. He recalled that former Ambassador Bryce, in his book, "The American Common-

(Continued on Ninth Page.)

## GERMAN CONSULS INDICTED BY JURY

They Are Charged With Being  
Leaders in Plots Against  
American Neutrality.

## TURKISH OFFICIAL INVOLVED

Action Taken to Mean That  
Hereafter Government Will  
Prosecute All Offenders.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—Investigations by agents of the Department of Justice resulted to-day in the voting of indictments in San Francisco against prominent figures in what are considered here to be two of the boldest plots involving questions of American neutrality that have been uncovered since the European war began.

Among those against whom indictments were voted, according to a message received here, are Franz Ropp, German consul-general, Baron E. H. von Schack, vice-consul of Germany, and Maurice Hall, the Turkish consul-general.

## GOVERNMENT ADOPTS

### MORE DRASTIC ATTITUDE

Consular officers do not enjoy the diplomatic immunities which ministers, ambassadors and attaches are given by international law, but are subject to jurisdiction of the country in which they are resident, and may be treated by the law as are any other persons. The indictments voted to-day, however, are the first which the Federal government had attempted to secure against any foreign representatives. Thus fact was taken to mean that hereafter the administration intends to prosecute, wherever prosecution will do any offender against American neutrality.

Ropp and von Schack are charged with complicity in the plot which was first uncovered several weeks ago with the arrest of C. C. Crowley, alleged to be a pro-German agent, who had undertaken to cripple the American output of munitions of war and in other ways to help the cause of the Teutonic allies. Ropp is accused of being the head of a conspiracy which hoped to accomplish this end by interfering with trade in munitions and preventing railway shipments by blowing up two tunnels on Canadian roads.

## PROSECUTIONS ARE UNDER

### SHERMAN ANTITRUST ACT

The German officials are being proceeded against under the Sherman antitrust act in connection with their alleged activities against American plants and under a section of the penal code aimed at the setting on foot of military expeditions against a friendly nation in connection with plans to blow up Canadian railway tunnels.

The indictment of the Turkish consul-general was voted in connection with the use of the steamer Sacramento to supply German ships of war in the South Pacific, which ended in the internment of that vessel by the Chilean government many months ago. According to officials here, the Sacramento is one of the clearest that has come to their notice of the use of an American port as the base for supplies of a belligerent.

## MANY ARE INCLUDED

### IN GRAND JURY'S ACTION

SAN FRANCISCO, February 8.—News from Washington of the voted indictments of consular officials here of the German government anticipated by at least two days, the grand jury of the Federal grand jury. Officials admitted that among those against whom indictments have been voted are included the following:

Franz Ropp, consul-general for Germany; Baron von Schack, vice-consul for Germany; Henry W. E. Kauffman, chancellor of the German consulate; Maurice H. Hall, consul-general for Turkey; Fred Jensen, former owner of the steamer Mazatlan; Johannes H. von Koelbergen, alleged agent of the German consulate; Dr. Simon Reimer, said to be a German navy officer, and Frederick Williams, thought to be a Teutonic agent.

Three of the bomb-plot indictments contained charges against Von George Wilhelm von Brincken, an attaché of the German consulate; C. C. Crowley, a detective, and Mrs. Margaret Cornell, an investigator, who, with Crowley, was employed by Ropp, according to the indictment. These persons, already under indictment on charges of conspiring to destroy commerce and to use the mails to incite to murder, arson and assassination, are, according to District Attorney Preston, charged with violation of the Sherman antitrust law in conspiring to send a military expedition from the United States.

## ACTS COME UNDER HEAD

### OF MILITARY EXPEDITION

It is charged that German agents opened in Canada in the destruction of tunnels and bridges to such an extent that their alleged acts would come under the head of those of a military expedition. Von Koelbergen is said to have been one of these agents.

Alleged violation of the Sherman law has to do with restrictions of international commerce, which the government charged Ropp, von Schack, Crowley, Mrs. Cornell and Von Brincken conspired to effect.

It is in connection with the alleged purchase of shipments and their discharge to German cruisers in Chilean waters by the steamer Sacramento that Turkish Consul Hall is said to have been indicted. Preston said Hall signed the contracts for the purchase of the cargo of the Sacramento.

Dr. Reimer, whose whereabouts are unknown, and "Frederick Williams" are also thought to be connected with the Sacramento. The alleged indictments of Chancellor Kauff and Baron von Schack were said to be in connection with the carrying of coal by the steamer Mazatlan from San Francisco to Guaymas for German warships in the Gulf of 1914. Frederick Jensen owned the vessel.

# LUSITANIA CASE NEARLY SETTLED

Only Minor Alterations Yet to Be Made  
Before Full Agreement With Germany

PRESIDENT WILSON and the members of his Cabinet have gone over the latest proposal of Germany for a settlement of the American government's demands concerning the sinking of the Lusitania. While some alterations in the form of the agreement, which will require its reference to Berlin again, must be made, they are regarded as minor ones, and the impression prevails that in a short time the controversy will be settled amicably.

Charged with being connected with plots involving questions of American neutrality, the German consul-general and vice-consul and the Turkish consul-general in San Francisco have been indicted by a Federal grand jury.

Artillery actions between the French and the British and the Germans continue at various points on the front.

The Franco-Belgian front, but there have been no important changes in positions anywhere. Nor have the Germans yet begun the great offensive for which they are reported unofficially to be preparing.

Heavy fighting has broken out again in East Galicia. All along the front the artillery has been active. The Russians succeeded north of Tarnopol after repeated attacks in penetrating the Austro-Hungarian advanced infantry posts, but were ejected from them later on, according to Vienna.

Austrian warships in the Adriatic have been found attempting to torpedo a British cruiser and a French torpedo-boat which were aiding the Serbian army in its evacuation of the Adriatic coast. A Teutonic submarine also attempted to sink the allied vessels off Durazzo, but the torpedoes missed their mark.

## EIGHT-HOUR DAY CHECK ON NATIONAL INDUSTRY

Howard Elliott Laments Demands of  
Employees for Shorter Time  
and Higher Wages.

## FORERUNNER OF DISASTER

Adds Chamber of Commerce of  
United States at Fourth Annual  
Convention—Lively Discussion Is  
Started Over Ship-Purchase Bill.

NEW ORLEANS, February 8.—Demands of railway employees for higher wages and the general tendency toward the eight-hour work day were deprecated as checks upon the development of industry by Howard Elliott, chairman of the board of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, in a speech to-night before the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. He said such demands as those recently made by the four great organizations of railroad men were but steps in a process which, if continued, would raise the cost of living to new heights and finally result in conditions much more to the disadvantage of labor than of capital.

## FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING

### OF NATIONAL CHAMBER

Mr. Elliott's statement was made at the close of the first day of the national chamber's fourth annual convention, which is being attended by more than 500 delegates from every State in the Union. John H. Fahner, of Boston, the president, addressed the opening session this morning, appealing to business men to do some constructive thinking, and to become less partisan in dealing with great economic questions.

The day's sessions were devoted largely to committee reports. To-night there were speeches by men prominent in the business, official and professional life of the nation. In addition to Mr. Elliott, the speakers included Secretary Redfield, of the Department of Commerce, who discussed "Vocational Education," and Dr. Ernest Fox Nichols, president of Dartmouth College, whose subject was "Employment Managers."

A report from the merchant marine committee, condemning certain features of the ship-purchase bill pending in Congress, started a lively discussion during the afternoon. William H. Douglas, chairman, asserted the committee's belief that it would be inconsistent to place two Cabinet officers, as contemplated, on the proposed ship-purchase board, and declared the proposal to have the government spend \$50,000,000 was inadequate.

## THINKS HE SHOULD HEAR

### VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

"The President has heard the voice of the people on national preparedness," Mr. Douglas said, "and from a program to battleships a year, he now calls for the greatest navy the world. If he were to go out and speak for a merchant marine he would come back with a proposal not to spend \$50,000,000, but \$250,000,000."

A resolution which would put the chamber on record as approving a policy of universal military training in the United States is under consideration of the resolutions committee, and probably will be introduced on Thursday after addresses by Secretaries Garrison and Daniels. President Wilson, who will speak at the dinner which will close the convention on Thursday night, is expected to touch on the subject of national defense.

## LAMENTED TENDENCY

### TOWARD EIGHT-HOUR DAY

In his address to-night Mr. Elliott lamented the tendency toward the eight-hour day in view of the great volume of work facing the country's industries, and declared the railroads should be relieved of the burden of serving "forty-nine masters"—the Federal government and the States.

"The nation is confronted with more work than ever before, ships to build, factories to enlarge and railroads to complete," he said. "About 30,000,000 men are at work. If they work ten hours a day, that is 32,000,000,000 hours a year. If they work eight hours, it is 24,000,000,000, a difference of 8,000,000,000 hours a year. At eight hours this would mean that about 7,000,000 more men must be employed to do the work that the 30,000,000 could do. And where are they to come from?"

## AMERICAN NAVY READY FOR BATTLE IN PACIFIC

Rear-Admiral Blue Tells House Com-  
mittee That Fleet Is Prepared  
for Any Enemy.

## DECLINES TO REVEAL SECRETS

Congress Is Progressing Toward Pre-  
paredness, and Committees Are  
Shaping Legislation—Continental  
Army Scheme May Be Abandoned.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—Congress made progress to-day on national-preparedness measures.

The Senate Military Committee closed its hearings on the army bills. The Senate Naval Committee reported favorably the bill for a government armor-plate plant and recommended immediate action on two navy measures which passed the House yesterday. On the House side of the Capitol the Naval Committee virtually concluded its examination of Rear-Admiral Blue, chief of the Bureau of Navigation, while the Military Committee received the proposals of the American Red Cross for greater government aid in Red Cross preparedness plans.

During the day the Military Committee of both houses heard delegations of pacifists, who argued against any army and navy increases.

The most striking statement brought out at any of the hearings was that of Admiral Blue, who declared that the American navy was now ready to meet any enemy it might be called upon to encounter in the Pacific. He declined to say what steps had been taken in the last year and a half toward preparing the navy against emergencies, holding these to be military secrets.

Chairman Padgett supported Admiral Blue's determination not to reveal departmental secrets, overruling Representative Britten's attempt to find out, as he expressed it, "whether the navy is now ready to fight." Mr. Britten asserted that the general board had warned the department a year ago that it should prepare, and he wanted to know just what steps had been taken.

The Senate Military Committee probably will begin to-morrow the preparation of the bill it will propose to build up adequate land defenses. Present indications are that the administration's plan to create a Federal volunteer army, to be known as the continentals, will be included in the bill in some form. There will be provision for a reorganization of the regular army, and Chairman Chamberlain and several of his committee members will urge a permanent force with the colors of more than 200,000 men, as against Secretary Garrison's recommendations for a skeleton organization of 110,000.

## CONTINENTAL ARMY SCHEME

### MAY BE ABANDONED

The House Military Committee will complete its hearings probably next week. The continental army scheme, many committee members believe, will be abandoned in the bill it will submit in favor of measures designed to federalize the National Guard under militia pay provisions.

The Senate Naval Committee is not expected to take up the appropriation bill dealing with the preparedness building program until the House committee is well advanced with its work. It will be six weeks or two months, Chairman Padgett, of the House committee, has estimated, before hearings will close there. The building program has not been dealt with directly so far, the committee having confined its attention to items dealing with the equipment and upkeep of ships now in service, building or authorized.

To-day's examination of Admiral Blue disclosed the source of the statements contained in Admiral Fletcher's last annual report that the Atlantic Fleet was short 5,000 men of its proper complement. Various boards of fleet officers determined upon the number of men thought necessary for vessels of each type a year ago, Admiral Blue said, and these greatly increased the number for each ship. Admiral Fletcher based his statements on these figures, he added, and the shortage under authorized complements was less than 1,000, which had since been remedied.

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## GERMANY YIELDS ALL VITAL POINTS IN CONTROVERSY

Only Minor Changes in Form  
of Agreement Remain  
to Be Decided.

SUBMITTED TO BERLIN  
FOR FINAL APPROVAL

High Principles Contended For  
by Washington Are Fully  
Recognized.

LATEST NOTE ACCEPTABLE

Not the Slightest Difficulty Is Ex-  
pected in Further Nego-  
tations.

WASHINGTON, February 8.—In substance the tentative communication from Germany designed to settle the Lusitania case is acceptable to the United States. High administration officials to-night consider that this government in prevailing upon Germany to make the concessions and agreements, as set forth in the document, has achieved recognition of all the high principles for which it has contended in connection with submarine warfare.

## ONLY MINOR CHANGES

### TO CLARIFY WORDING

While the substance of the proposed communication admittedly is satisfactory, minor changes to clarify the wording and in connection with the form which the formal document shall take were suggested to-day to Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, by Secretary Lansing. The desire of the United States in this connection were made known to the ambassador after President Wilson had discussed the subject with his Cabinet. Count von Bernstorff immediately informed the secretary that he saw no reason why the changes could not be made, but explained in effect that, as a precaution, he thought he would be justified in submitting the entire matter to his government for final approval. He did so in a dispatch sent to Berlin to-night, and within about six days the resulting formal communication is expected.

Secretary Lansing insists, it is stated by high authorities, that it shall be stated specifically in the communication that it is an answer to the last American note regarding the Lusitania. This and changes deemed necessary to clarify certain portions of the document, administration officials thought Count von Bernstorff himself would be able to make. The ambassador, however, declined to change even the punctuation of the document without the approval of his government. He had not deemed it necessary, it is said, to include the statement that the communication was in answer to the American note, considering that the same end would be accomplished by its submission in the form of a memorandum. Administration officials hold, however, that to keep the record straight, if for no other reason, mention that the communication is a reply should be made.

## MATTER OF SIGNING

### SUBMITTED TO BERLIN

The ambassador as yet does not know whether his government wants him to sign the formal note or whether it is desired to have the Secretary of Foreign Affairs do so. This phase also has been submitted to Berlin.

Assurances were received in high diplomatic and official circles that the changes of wording suggested would not in any sense alter the meaning. No modifications, it was authoritatively stated, were suggested in connection with the phrase submitted for the word "illegal" which the German government was unwilling to use.

In Teutonic diplomatic circles not the slightest difficulty over the proposed changes is anticipated. Apparently some of the changes consist merely of substituting one word for another, changing the order of words, or the use of a sentence without changing even the words, and striking out words which in their translation from German to English, make the language unusual.

Developments came rapidly to-day. Secretary Lansing went to the White House an hour before the time set for the meeting of the Cabinet to discuss with the President in detail the tentative communication and analyze the meaning of the words employed. When the Cabinet met the proposal was submitted by the President.

## "EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT."

### BUT IT IS NOT FINISHED

Late this afternoon Count von Bernstorff, who earlier in the day had requested an appointment, was called to the State Department by Secretary Lansing. The two remained closed in the secretary's office for more than half an hour. The secretary outlined the wishes of the United States in detail. As the ambassador left the building he said:

"Everything is substantially all right, but it is not finished."

A high official of the administration made this announcement:

"A settlement of the Lusitania case is in sight, probably within the next few days. The United States has not increased its demands; it has not reduced them. You can draw your own conclusion as to the basis of the agreement. The wording proposed by